

5th Annual Standing Stone State Park's

SPRING NATURALIST



RALLY



Friday - Saturday

April 18 & 19, 2008

Standing Stone State Park
1674 Standing Stone Hwy.
Hilham, TN 38568

931-823-6347



FRIENDS
OF
STANDING STONE STATE PARK

Spring weather is always unpredictable. Please check the local weather forecast before you leave home and prepare to join us, rain or shine, for two days of fun and learning about the natural and cultural beauties of Standing Stone State Park. Other items to consider for an enjoyable day/night at the park: comfortable, but sturdy shoes/boots, comfortable clothes, sunscreen, flashlight, jacket, water to carry with you, field guides, binoculars, food, and snacks.

SCHEDULE OF EVENTS

Friday, April 18th

- 5:30 P.M.** **Registration / Welcome:** Registration is open all evening at the Recreational Hall.
- 6:00 P.M.** **LIVE ! Birds of Prey:** Join John Stokes and Dale Kernahan Stokes, from S.O.A.R. (Save Our American Raptors) for a live presentation on birds of prey. In addition to the bald eagle, they will showcase various other birds of prey and demonstrate each bird's unique abilities. The S.O.A.R. naturalists will also discuss birds of prey adaptations, predator/prey relationships, specific characteristics, natural histories, the personal histories of each bird, and their work to rehabilitate the injured birds. Be sure to come early for a good seat! *Indoors at the Park Recreational Hall.*
- 7:00 P.M.** **SNAKES ALIVE! Snakes of Tennessee:** Uncover the secrets behind some of Tennessee's most misunderstood animals and find out what makes snakes super! Join Ray Jordan, Tennessee Technological University's Herpetological Professor, for a live, first-hand look at some of Tennessee's most exceptional creatures. *Indoors at the Park Recreational Hall.*
- 8:15 P.M.** **Nighttime Herp Survey:** Nighttime is the right time to explore the world of reptiles and amphibians! Join Robert Brewer, Assistant Professor at Cleveland State Community College, on a hunt for herp species in the Park. Carpooling is recommended as we travel with Robert over park back roads in search of the nighttime herp! *Meet at the Park Recreational Hall.*

Saturday, April 19th

- 6:30 A.M.** **Registration:** Registration and information booth is open all day at Recreational Hall.
- 7:00 A.M.** **Early Birding:** Join Dr. Stephen Stedman, TTU Professor, Regional Editor of Christmas Bird Counts in Tennessee, Alabama, and Mississippi for *American Birds*, and Author of "Horned Grebe" for *Birds of North America*, will lead us on an early morning walk into the woods for a glimpse at these fluttering wonders. Dr. Stedman will help you with identification of the local and hard-to-see migrating bird species. Bring your binoculars and field guides. *Meet at the shelter beside the Overton Lodge.*
- 9:00 A.M.** **The CCC and Tennessee State Parks:** Known as Roosevelt's Tree Army, the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC) is credited with having an enormous impact on many national and state parks. What was life like in a CCC camp? What did these young men do that was so important and enduring? Join Dr. Philip Smartt, Associate Professor of Natural Resource Management at the University of Tennessee at Martin, for a one of a kind program that looks at the history of the CCC and pays particular attention to the influence on Tennessee State Parks. The role of other related New Deal programs will also be discussed. *Meet indoors at the Park Recreational Hall.*
- Rambling for Wildflowers:** Randy Hedgepath, Tennessee State Naturalist, will lead us on a fun and enlightening look at the park's beautiful wildflowers. Remember, wild plants and flowers are protected in the Park, so please don't pick the flowers! *Meet at Shelter # 1 and carpool to the Overton Lodge. (This will be a very, easy roadside hike and is great for anyone that wishes to participate.)*
- 10:00 A.M.** **TWRA Update on Elk & Black Bear:** Join Dan Hicks, TWRA, who will update us on TWRA's Elk and Black Bear Programs. Also, Mr. Hicks is bringing the TWRA Wildlife Trailer for all to enjoy! Wildlife Trailer will be open 10am – 4 pm. *Meet indoors at the Park Recreational Hall.*
- ATBI Field Session! Learning Your Family Tree:** Join LinnAnn Welch, Tennessee State Biologist, and Dr. David Hill, former Belmont Professor, in the world's oldest classroom. LinnAnn and David will lead us on a fun, hands-on educational look at our oldest friend and neighbor. We will learn how to identify species, tree protocol and assist the park with their tree inventory. *Meet at Shelter # 1.*

- 10:00 A.M.** **Annual Wildflower Walk:** Join Ray Jordan, Associate Professor of Biology at Tennessee Technological University, and others on a rugged hike to view some of the most beautiful native wildflower species in Standing Stone State Park. Bring your field guide. *Meet at Shelter # 2. (Due to narrow trail, this session will be limited to 20 participants.)*
- 11:00 A.M.** **Marbles Games:** Are you a “Mibster”? Have you ever “Plunked” your marble? To learn the answers to these questions and a whole lot more, meet Jeff Kimmell, National Marbles Champion and current Standing Stone State Park marbles coach, and knuckle down for an hour packed with snoogers, plunking, lagging, and just plain marble fun. Program will include adult and kids’ games and demonstrations. *Meet at Shelter # 1.*
- 12:00 P.M.** **Lunch:** Bring a pack lunch!
- 1:00 P.M.** **Snake Interpretation:** Do you know who lives in the Park? Join Travis Stover, Park Interpretive Specialist from Standing Stone State Park, for an up close look at some of the non-human residents. Travis will introduce you to the park’s captive Pine Snake. *Meet indoors at the Park Recreational Hall.*
- Land Snail Expedition:** Tennessee is home to over 225 land snail & slug species, with well over 50 species anticipated from the Standing Stone area. In a brief survey in the summer of 2004, Dr. Brian Coles, a respected British malacologist, found 41 land snail species at Standing Stone. These included the rare striate gloss (*Zonitoides lateumbilicatus*), among others. Join David Withers, Zoologist with the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation’s Division of Natural Heritage, for a fun-filled re-sampling of the same cove woodland during this much more favorable time of year for snails. Hopefully this expedition will lead to the finding of as many species as he did, or perhaps different ones. Participants will be looking for different kinds of snails by searching leaf litter, rotting logs, live plants, and limestone outcrops. Also, participants will photograph live snails (bring your cameras!) and collect dead shells of others. The dead shells will be taken back to the “lab” and use scientific keys to type them to species. *Meet at Shelter # 1. This hike will include a moderately strenuous hike along a managed trail, and a moderate to very strenuous hike into a woodland cove. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes and be prepared for poison ivy, snakes, and slippery slopes.*
- Cave Field Trip:** It’s time to go underground and discover the best kept secret in Tennessee, our amazing caves. Join Kristen Bobo, a true cave enthusiast, for an insightful look at cave formation, cave life, and how you can help maintain Tennessee caves for future generations. This hike will include a moderately strenuous hike along a managed trail, and a moderate to very strenuous hike into a woodland cove. Wear long pants and sturdy shoes and be prepared for poison ivy, snakes, and slippery slopes. *Meet at Shelter # 2 and carpool to Glasscock Cemetery located in the Standing Stone State Forest.*
- 2:00 P.M.** **All Nature Scavenger Hunt:** Come with me to the great outdoors! We’re going on a scavenger hunt!! Join Robert Brewer, Assistant Professor at Cleveland State Community College, for an all nature scavenger hunt. *Meet at Shelter # 2.*
- 3:00 P.M.** **Wildflowers of the Blue Ridge and the Great Smoky Mountains:** The mountains of eastern America contain some of the world’s most diverse array of flora—in the Great Smoky Mountains alone there are more types of flowering plants than are found in all of Europe. National Outdoor Book Award winner Leonard M. Adkins’ multimedia presentation, featuring the stunning photographs of Joe Cook, will take you beyond the usual “this flower has five petals, five sepals and heart-shaped leaves” kind of presentation. Learn the fascinating biographies of the wildflowers—the story behind their common and scientific names, the fascinating roles they have played throughout history, their value in folkloric as well as modern medicine, why they grow where they do, and how reproduction determines their shape. *Meet indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*
- Dazzling Butterfly, Dragonfly, and Damselfly Hike:** Come with Richard Connors, former president of the Tennessee Ornithological Society, and Rita Venable, founder of the North American Butterfly Association (Middle Tennessee Chapter), on a walk to learn about the various types of butterflies and dragonflies inhabiting Standing Stone State Park. *Meet at Shelter # 1.*
- 5:00 P.M.** **Dinner:** The Friends of Standing Stone will be on site with dinner plates for Naturalist Rally guests to enjoy! Dinner price will be \$7.00 and will include a dinner choice of chicken and dressing, dried cranberry salad, raspberry dressing, roll, and tea or water or the vegetarian option of alfredo, lettuce and tomato salad, roll, and tea or water. Come early, dinner plates and options are on a first come first serve basis. All participants are responsible for purchasing meals. *Meet at the Park Tea Room.*
- 5:45 P.M.** **TRAVERSING ANCIENT MOUNTAINS: 2,000 Miles on the Appalachian Trail:** Known as “The Habitual Hiker,” Leonard M. Adkins has walked the entire Appalachian Trail five times. Accompanied by folk, classical, and new age music, his multimedia presentation depicts a typical thru-hike. Witness snows in the southern mountains, rejoice at spring flowers, come to know those who hike the trail, experience the vastness of the Presidential Range, and exhilarate on the final steps atop Mt. Katahdin. This evening presentation will permit you to experience the entire Appalachian Trail without having to take a step—and maybe be inspired to take a journey of your own! *Meet indoors at the Park Recreational Hall*
- 7:00 P.M.** **SPRING NIGHT SKIES:** Don’t miss this opportunity to gather beneath the darkening skies and learn the lore of the spring stars. Join park special guest, Lloyd Watkins, as he shares his knowledge and his astronomical tools for a night of stargazing. Telescope viewing will be offered, weather permitting. Bring your binoculars and field guides. *Meet at the Park Recreational Hall.*

PARK GENERAL INFORMATION

How to Find Us: Take exit 288 off I-40 (Livingston/Sparta exit), Highway 111 North to Livingston, Highway 52 West to the entrance of the park. Highway 136 is the main park road.

About STANDING STONE STATE PARK: Standing Stone State Park and Forrest covers nearly 11,000 acres on the Cumberland Plateau of north-central Tennessee. The quaint and rustic park is noted for its outstanding scenery, spring wildflowers, fossils and other natural diversity. The park takes its name from the Standing Stone, an eight-foot tall rock standing upright on a sandstone ledge, which was supposedly used as a boundary line between two separate Indian nations. When the rock fell, the Indians placed a portion of it upon an improvised monument to preserve it. The stone is still preserved in Monterey, Tennessee.

Standing Stone State Park also has many recreational opportunities including fishing and boating on the 69 acre park lake, a swimming pool, tennis, basketball, ping-pong, marbles, horseshoes, volleyball, and softball. There are ten miles of hiking trails winding through the wild woods of Standing Stone. Hikers will observe much diversity in plant and animal life from the trails as they trek across bridges. Trails are open year round. Over night camping is not allowed on any of the trails. Standing Stone offers a 36-site campground and many different cabins to rent.

For more information call the Park Interpretive Specialist, Shawn Hughes at 931-823-6347, 1-800-713-5157, or please visit our website:

<http://tennessee.gov/environment/parks/StandingStone/>



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